

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A structural automotive door body, comprising:
an inner sheet metal layer, the inner sheet metal layer including a latch mounting surface and at least one hinge mounting surface;
an outer sheet metal layer; and
a structural reinforcement member disposed between the inner and outer sheet metal layers to reinforce the inner and outer sheet metal layers and providing at least one hinge reinforcement and a latch reinforcement;
wherein said inner sheet metal layer presents includes a pair of spaced apart end walls connected only by a bottom wall extending between said pair of spaced apart end walls thereby defining a substantially U-shaped structure having an open upper portion and said structural reinforcement member includes a top member that abuts said outer sheet metal layer and extends thereacross adjacent [[the]] said open upper portion of said U-shaped structure of said inner sheet metal layer.
2. (Original) A structural automotive door body according to claim 1, wherein said structural reinforcement member includes a side impact beam.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously presented) A structural automotive door body according to claim 2, wherein said structural reinforcement member includes a bottom cross-member that abuts and supports the inner and outer sheet metal layers.
5. (Original) A structural automotive door body according to claim 4, wherein said structural reinforcement member is welded to said inner sheet metal layer.
6. (Original) A structural automotive door body according to claim 5, wherein said outer sheet metal layer is hemmed to said inner sheet metal layer.

7. (Previously presented) A structural automotive door body according to claim 1, wherein said structural reinforcement member includes a middle cross member, a bottom cross member, and continuous side peripheries, said top member reinforcing said outer panel, said middle cross member extending between said side peripheries to function as a side impact beam, said bottom cross-member abutting and reinforcing said inner and outer sheet metal layers; and wherein said side peripheries include at least one hinge reinforcement and a latch reinforcement.

8. (Currently amended) A structural automotive door body, comprising:

an inner sheet metal layer including a pair of spaced apart end walls connected only by a bottom wall extending between the pair of spaced apart end walls thereby defining a substantially U-shaped structure having an open upper portion;

an outer sheet metal layer;

at least one of the inner and outer sheet metal layers including a latch mounting surface and at least one hinge mounting surface;

a structural reinforcement member disposed between the inner and outer sheet metal layers, said member comprising top, middle and bottom cross-members and contiguous side peripheries, wherein:

said top member abuts and extends across said outer sheet metal layer adjacent the open[[, top]] upper portion of said U-shaped structure of said inner sheet metal layer;

said middle cross member extends between said side peripheries to function as a side impact beam;

said bottom cross-member abuts and supports said inner and outer sheet metal layers; and said side peripheries include at least one hinge reinforcement and a latch reinforcement.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) A door assembly, comprising:

an inner sheet metal layer defining a substantially U-shaped structure, the inner sheet metal layer including a latch mounting surface and at least one hinge mounting surface;

an outer, substantially planar, sheet metal layer;

a structural reinforcement member disposed between the inner and outer sheet metal layers for reinforcing the inner and outer sheet metal layers and providing at least one hinge reinforcement and a latch reinforcement;

a carrier assembly, including a belt-line loading member connected to a non-structural hardware carrier having at least a window regulator mounted thereon, said carrier assembly being mounted to at least the structural reinforcement member and covering the U-shaped area; and

a trim component for covering said carrier assembly.

11. (Original) A door assembly according to claim 10, wherein said hardware carrier includes a secondary trim component which provides a shelf structure for a map pocket and said trim component includes a wall for said map pocket.

12. (Original) A door assembly according to claim 10, wherein said window regulator includes at least one rail having one end mounted to said belt-line loading member and means for adjusting the lateral and vertical position of the other end of said at least one rail.

13. (Currently amended) A structural automotive door body, comprising:

an inner sheet metal layer, the inner sheet metal layer including a pair of spaced apart end walls connected only by a bottom wall extending between the pair of spaced apart end walls, said inner sheet metal layer also including a latch mounting surface and at least one hinge mounting surface;

an outer sheet metal layer; and

a structural reinforcement member disposed between the inner and outer sheet metal layers, said structural reinforcement member including top, middle and bottom cross-members and continuous side peripheries, said top member reinforcing said outer panel, said middle cross member extending between said side peripheries to function as a side impact beam, said bottom cross-member abutting and reinforcing said inner and outer sheet metal layers; and wherein said side peripheries include at least one hinge reinforcement and a latch reinforcement.